FY 2009 Capital Budget TPS Report 50717

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development

Project Title:

State Regional Cruise Ship Impact Study

State Funding Requested: \$ 350,000 House District: Statewide (1-40)

One-Time Need

Brief Project Description:

The project will provide funding for the Alaska Office of Economic Development to conduct a study to determine the costs to the State of Alaska, municipalities and other government agencies of providing services and infrastructure to visitors traveling to Alaska on commercial passenger vessels.

Funding Plan:

Total Cost of Project: \$350,000

<u>Funding Secured</u> <u>Other Pending Requests</u> <u>Anticipated Future Need</u>

Amount FY Amount FY Amount FY

There is no other funding needed

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

In order to make an informed decision regarding which community and state projects should receive monies from the Regional Cruise Ship Impact Fund and other proceeds from the tax on travel on commercial passenger vessels, the Alaska Office of Economic Development in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development would conduct a State and Regional Cruise Ship Impact Study.

The purpose of the study would be to determine the costs to the State of Alaska, municipalities and othe government agencies of providing services and infrastructure to visitors traveling to Alaska on commercial passenger vessels. The scope of work would include an assessment of current costs and impacts of such visitation. Costs would include direct additional or new costs incurred by government entities over and above what would be incurred in the absence of the cruise ship visitors and costs allocated to cruise ship visitors based on services rendered. It would also include induced costs associated with providing services to a seasonal workforce that provides services to the cruise ship visitors and that would not otherwise exist if not for the presence of these visitors.

The study would also identify future needs and projects based on current and projected visitation and the costs associated with addressing those needs and implementing these projects. In order to help identify future needs, the study would include an in-depth analysis of trends and cruise industry plans. It will provide a forecast of projected cruise ship activity in Alaska.

The assessment would include, at a minimum, a survey of the following entities:

- -State of Alaska Agencies (Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Fish and Game, Department of Public Safety, etc.)
- -Port of Call Municipalities and Government Agencies
- -Cruise Ship Companies

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-Citizens
Project Timeline:
Project can commence in FY09
Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:
DCCED, Office of Economic Development
Grant Recipient Contact Information:
Contact Name:
Phone Number:
Address:
Email:
Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes X No

Contact Name: Mike Pawlowski Contact Number: 465-4945

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